

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 QUITO 03882 110059Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /054 W  
-----110126Z 030437 /73

O R 110145Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4689  
INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 3882

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINR PGOV OAS EC  
SUBJ: SALVADOR LARA RESIGNS; AYALA WILL BE NEW FOREIGN MINISTER

1. JORGE SALVADOR LARA, GOE FOREIGN MINISTER SINCE DECEMBER, 1976, RESIGNED JUNE 10 CITING A PREVIOUS AGREEMENT WITH THE GOE TO SERVE IN THE POSITION SIX MONTHS. SALVADOR SAID THAT HE HAD ACCOMPLISHED HIS WORK PLAN IN THE MINISTRY AND THAT HE WAS LEAVING HAPPILY.

2. UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS JOSE AYALA LASSO SPOKE WITH CHARGE ON PHONE SOON AFTER SALVADOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT AND CONFIRMED THAT HE WOULD BE NAMED MINISTER EARLY NEXT WEEK. AYALA SHOULD BE WELL KNOWN TO THE DEPARTMENT.

3. AYALA SAID THAT HE DID NOT PLAN TO ATTEND THE OASGA IN GRENADA NEXT WEEK AND INFORMED THAT OAS PERM REP. GALO LEORO WOULD HEAD THE ECUADOREAN DELEGATION. ALTHOUGH AYALA REQUESTED THAT THE SECRETARY MAINTAIN HIS BILATERAL APPOINTMENT WITH LEORO, CHARGE TOLD HIM THIS WAS PROBABLY NOT POSSIBLE. AYALA UNDERSTOOD.

4. ASKED ABOUT REASON FOR SALVADOR'S SUDDEN DEPARTURE, AYALA REPLIED THAT THEY WERE PERSONAL AND HAD NO CONNECTION  
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WITH ANY INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL POLITICAL PROBLEM.

5. COMMENT: SALVADOR'S RESIGNATION, COMING IN THE MIDDLE OF A STATE VISIT BY ARGENTINE JUNTA MEMBER ADMIRAL EMILIO MASSERA, WAS UNEXPECTED. WE CAN ONLY SPECULATE THE REASON BUT AS FAR AS WE KNOW (AND AS EXPRESSED BY AYALA) HIS RESIGNATION WAS NOT CAUSED BY ANY PERSONAL OR POLICY DISAGREEMENT WITH THE

COUNTRY'S MILITARY LEADERS. IT IS KNOWN THAT SALVADOR IS  
CONSIDERED BY MANY CONSERVATIVES TO BE AN IDEAL PRESIDENTIAL  
CANDIDATE AND THAT SALVADOR HIMSELF IS POLITICALLY AMBITIOUS.  
HE MAY WISH TO DEVOTE HIMSELF TO THIS GOAL NOW THAT HE HAS  
RELIEVED HIMSELF OF HIS PORTFOLIO.  
CORR

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS, MINISTER COUNSELORS  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Subject:** SALVADOR LARA RESIGNS; AYALA WILL BE NEW FOREIGN MINISTER  
**TAGS:** PINR, PGOV, EC, OAS, (LARA, SALVADOR)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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